

**Title II Project Application**  
**Medford District Resource Advisory Committee**

1. **Project Number** (Assigned by federal unit): 117-424 **AMOUNT REQUESTED** \$55,055  
2. **Project Name:** Cathedral Hills Fuels Reduction Project 3. **County:** Josephine County  
4. **Project Sponsor:** Josephine Soil and Water Conservation District 5. **Date:** April 6, 2003  
6. **Sponsors Phone #:** (541) 474-6799  
7. **Sponsor's E-mail:** jowcd@cpros.com  
8. **Project Location** (attach project area maps showing general and specific locations of project.)  
a. 4<sup>th</sup> Field Watershed Name and HUC #(if known): Middle Rogue 17100308  
b. 5<sup>th</sup> Field Watershed Name and HUC #(if known): Rogue River / Savage Creek  
c. Legal Location:  
Township 36S Range 5W Section(s) 30  
d. BLM District Medford e. BLM Resource Area Grants Pass  
f. National Forest \_\_\_\_\_ g. Forest Service District \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ h. State / Private / other lands involved? ☒ Yes ☐ No

**9. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives:**

On approximately 40 acres within the Cathedral Hills Subdivision: complete fuel reduction project; whereby crews implement a fuel reduction/stand improvement strategy that will lead to reduced risk from wildfire, forest condition improvement, and increased safety to the benefit of public safety officials, adjacent properties, and landowners.

**10. Project Description:** (Provide concise description of project and attach map.)

The Cathedral Hills Subdivision (labeled Curtis Drive Subdivision on site map) contains 15 lots on approximately 75 acres just outside the Urban Growth Boundary of the City of Grants Pass. Cathedral Hills Park borders the subdivision to the south and east. The site is characterized by steep slopes, highly erosive granitic soils, and heavy fuel loads. The predominate vegetation is a conifer/hardwood mix with extensive areas of manzanita. Scotch broom is prevalent throughout this site. This project targets treatment on 40 acres within the subdivision and will compliment defensible space work landowners have already completed. Areas with the steepest slopes and heaviest fuels will be targeted. The conditions in these areas make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for homeowners to safely complete the work. Josephine SWCD will contract a crew to implement a fuel treatment/ forest health plan developed by a licensed forester as part of a pending contract between Cathedral Hills Water Association and the City of Grants Pass. The contracted crew will carry out treatment that will include thinning, slash removal, noxious weed removal, pruning of ladder fuels, chipping, and burning of piles in appropriate conditions and location. Natural fuel breaks will be enhanced. Stands within this site are experiencing a high incidence of mortality within the fir population, which can be attributed to insect infestation. Overstocked stands and the recent drought exacerbate the disease and insect problem. Infected trees that are dead or dying will be removed. This project will lead to eradication of noxious weeds, improved forest condition, and reduced fire risk.

**11. Coordination of this project with other related project(s) on adjacent lands?**

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X Yes    No    If yes, then describe.

Yes. BLM is currently working on trail inventories within the Cathedral Hills Park. A fuels reduction project for Cathedral Hills Park is on the BLM workplan. This project will complement these efforts and result in a far larger contiguous area of treatment.

**12. How does proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation?** [Sec. 203(b)(1)]

Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure. [Sec. 2(b)]

X Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems. [Sec. 2(b)]

X Restores and improves land health. [Sec. 2(b)]

Restores water quality. [Sec. 2(b)]

**13. Project Type** (*check one*) [Sec. 203(b)(1)]

Road Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]

Trail Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]

Road Decommission/Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]

Trail Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]

Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): \_\_\_\_\_ [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]

Soil Productivity Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(B)]

X Forest Health Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(C)]

Watershed Restoration & Mntc. [Sec. 2(b)(2)(D)]

Wildlife Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]

Fish Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]

Control of Noxious Weeds [Sec. 2(b)(2)(F)]

Reestablish Native Species [Sec. 2(b)(2)(G)]

Other Project Type (specify) [Sec. 2(b)(2)]: \_\_\_\_\_

**14. Measure of Project Accomplishments/Expected Outcomes** [Sec. 203(b)(5)]

(Use workload measures used for the budget process)

a. Total Acres: Approx. 40 acres    b. Total Miles: \_\_\_\_\_

c. No. Structures: \_\_\_\_\_    d. Estimated People Reached (for environmental education projects): \_\_\_\_\_

e. No. Of Laborer Days: 250 labor days \_\_\_\_\_

f. Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

g. **Program Element:** \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Duration of Project and Estimated Completion Date** [Sec. 203(b)(2)]: Duration: 2 years

Completion: 10-15-2005

**16. Target Species (plants/wildlife etc.) Benefited:** (if applicable)

This project will benefit native flora and fauna.

**17. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved?** [Sec. 2(b)(3)]. Hikers, mountain bikers, and horseback riders use the extensive trail system in Cathedral Hills Park (BLM property) that often times follows private/public property lines. One trail encroaches onto private property for approximately 1/8-1/4 mile. A large portion of the landscape viewed by users is private land. This project is a high profile example of how cooperative stewardship on private land can produce significant positive changes in the landscape to the ecological/ aesthetic benefit of landowner and park user.

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**18. How is this project in the best public interest? [Sec. 203(b)(7)] Identify benefits to communities?**

Cathedral Hills is bordered by three densely developed subdivisions to the west and north. The current fuel conditions in Cathedral Hills poses an extreme risk to the surrounding homeowners and to public safety officials. By completing fuel reduction work and stand improvement we are reducing the risk of a high- severity fire to the benefit of adjacent homeowners. Improved forest condition will impede the spread of undesirable weeds, pests, and diseases. By reducing extreme fire risk and improving forest condition the aesthetic and economic value of private land is protected.

**19. How does project benefit federal lands/resources?**

Poor forest condition in the Cathedral Hills area has led to the invasion of noxious weeds and an increase in tree mortality due to the prevalence of insects such as the flat-head borer. Treating Cathedral Hills will reduce the proliferation of these weeds, pests, and diseases onto public land, again protecting the economic, recreational, and aesthetic value.

**20. Status of Project Planning**

- |  |     |                                     |  |
|--|-----|-------------------------------------|--|
| a. NEPA Complete:                                    | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No   |
| b. If No, give est. date of completion: <u>11/03</u> |     |                                     |  |
| c. NMFS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:            | Yes | No                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| d. USFWS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:           | Yes | No                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| e. Survey & Manage Complete:                         | Yes | No                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| f. DSL/ODFW* Permits Obtained:                       | Yes | No                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| g. DLS/COE* 404 Fill/Removal Permit Obtained:        | Yes | No                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| h. SHPO* Concurrence Received:                       | Yes | No                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |
| i. Project Design(s) Completed:                      | Yes | No                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |

\* DSL = Dept. of State Lands, ODFW = Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, COE = Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer

**21. Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contract | Federal Workforce |
| County Workforce                             | Volunteers        |
| Other (specify): _____                       |                   |

**22. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? Yes No ☒**

\* The SWCD is currently working to identify a market for the small diameter product that will be harvested.

**23. Anticipated Project Costs [Sec. 203(b)(3)]**

- a. Total County Title II Funds Requested: \$ 55,050
- b. Is this a multi-year funding request? Yes ☒ No If yes, then display by fiscal year

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e. FY04 Request: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

f. FY05 Request: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

g. FY06 Request: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* Note: If you have a complex budget, add it as an appendix. The Resource Advisory Committee will want to know specifically how the funds will be spent.**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]</b>	<b>Requested County Title II Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]</b>	<b>Other Contributions [Sec. 203(b)(4)]</b>	<b>Total Available Funds</b>
24. Field Work & Site Surveys		\$500		
25. NEPA & Sec.7 ESA Consultation		\$500		
26. Permit Acquisition				
27. Project Design & Engineering			\$5,000	
28. Contract Preparation		\$750		
29. Contract Administration		\$3300		
30. Contract Cost				
31. Workforce Cost		\$45,000	\$15,000	
32. Materials & Supplies			\$300	
33. Monitoring			\$2,500	
34. Other				
35. Project Subtotal		\$50,050	\$23,550	
36. Indirect Costs (Overhead) (per year for multiple year projects)		\$5005		
37. Total Cost Estimate	\$	<b>\$55, 055</b>	<b>\$22,800</b>	<b>\$77,855</b>

**38. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding in Column C. Above** [Sec. 203(b)(4)]

Landowners, as part of a contract with the City of Grants Pass, have agreed to develop a Forest Health Plan. Fuel treatment will follow the recommendations in the plan. This accounts for the design and engineering cost-share. Josephine Soil and Water Conservation District will provide contract preparation as an in-kind donation. The SWCD will also supply some materials and supplies (i.e digital camera, scanner, paper, photocopying). Landowners have agreed to a cost-share of 25% for on -the ground treatment, and will pay for the SWCD to monitor this project for a minimum of five years.

**39. Monitoring Plan (Sec.203 (b)(6))**

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- a. **What measures or evaluations will be made to determine how well the proposed project meets the desired ecological conditions? [Sec. 203(b)(6)] Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?**

The SWCD will conduct monitoring on-site for a minimum of five years. The SWCD will keep records and photo points to ascertain if desirable conditions continue. Records will include observation of noxious weed re-infestation, brush growth, and documentation on tree mortality and health. Treatment and maintenance will be continued for a minimum of five years. The homeowners will be responsible for these activities under the guidance of Josephine SWCD.

- b. **How will the project be evaluated to determine how well the proposed project contributes towards local employment and/or training opportunities, including summer youth jobs programs such as the Youth Conservation Corps? [Sec. 203(b)(6)] Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?**

This project can be evaluated on success by the number of crew hours that are produced by this project. One major aim is to provide a good seasonal employment opportunity for local contractors.

- c. **What methods and measures of evaluation will be established to determine how well the proposed project improves the use of, or added value to, any products removed from National Forest System lands consistent with the purposes of this Act? [Sec. 203(b)(6) and Sec. 204(e)(3)] Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?**

Not applicable.

- d. **Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Table 1, Item 33)**

Amount: \$2,500 ( Landowner in-kind)